

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04357 170915Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 COME-00  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 STR-07  
USIA-06 PA-01 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 SS-15 CEA-01  
H-01 /073 W  
-----022213 170934Z /15  
P 170904Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6249

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PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS; ETRD, EAGR, JA, US  
SUBJECT: USHIBA FOLLOW-UP: BEEF TEAM FINAL DAY

1. SANO, OF LIVESTOCK DIVISION OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
MARCH 17 GAVE EC MINISTER AND GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF MEAT  
TEAM GOJ'S COMMITMENT "TO FACILITATE THE IMPORTATION OF  
AN ADDITIONAL 10,000 TONS OF HIGH QUALITY BEEF." SANO  
SAID FORMULATION OF WORDS HAD BEEN WORKED OUT DURING ALL  
NIGHT SESSION IN MAF AND HAD APPROVAL UP THROUGH  
MINISTER NAKAGAWA.

2. SANO ADDED THAT GOJ'S FACILITATION WOULD HAVE TO BE  
CONNECTED WITH ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY BOTH SIDES, THAT  
JAPANESE TEAM TO VISIT U.S. IN EARLY PART OF APRIL WOULD  
BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ACTIONS NEEDED.

3. SANO ASKED FOR STRICTLY NO PUBLICITY IN JAPAN ON NEW  
TERMS OF COMMITMENT AND THAT NEITHER SIDE AT ANY TIME  
DISCUSS PUBLICLY THE FACT THAT THERE HAD BEEN  
DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION OF STRAUSS-USHIBA  
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 04357 170915Z

COMMUNIQUE DURING THIS WEEK'S SESSIONS.

4. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THAT INDUSTRY MEMBERS ARE DIS-  
APPOINTED THAT TEAM WAS NOT ABLE TO WORK OUT DETAILS ON  
PRACTICAL MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION. ON THE OTHER HAND,  
EMBASSY BELIEVES SIGNIFICANT CLARIFICATIONS OF  
JAPANESE INTENTIONS HAS EMERGED AND THAT TEAM HAS

IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF COMPLEX JAPANESE SYSTEM.  
TROUBLESOME CONCEPTS OF "MUTUAL EFFORTS TO EXPLOIT  
DEMAND" HAVE NOW BEEN PARTIALLY OVERTAKEN.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES WE CAN LOOK UPON TODAY'S COMMIT-  
MENT AS HONEST EFFORT INDEED TO FACILITATE OUR INDUSTRY'S  
ADJUSTMENT TO COMPLICATED JAPANESE SYSTEM. HOWEVER, WE  
FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT QUESTIONS  
REMAIN CONCERNING JAPANESE ACTIONS TO PERMIT EFFECTIVE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABOVE COMMITMENT. WE HAVE URGED  
THEM TO INFORM US AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE OF  
ACTIONS THEY WILL BE DISCUSSING DURING JAPANESE TEAM'S  
VISIT TO U.S.

6. HOWEVER, ALL THE DECISION-MAKERS IN THIS TRICKY AREA  
WILL BE FULLY TIED UP UNTIL MARCH 31 WITH DIFFICULT  
PROBLEM OF SETTING BEEF SUPPORT PRICE FOR JFY 1978. WE  
SHOULD BE MOST CAUTIOUS TO AVOID ANY ACTIONS OR STATEMENTS  
THAT MAKE THEIR JOB MORE DIFFICULT OR PUT THEM IN A  
POSITION WHERE IT WOULD BE EVEN HARDER TO RESIST FARMERS  
DEMANDS FOR HIGHER SUPPORT PRICES. THE LOWER THE SUPPORT  
PRICE, THE EASIER IT WILL BE FOR US TO SELL BEEF.  
MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, MEATS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, EAGR, JA, US  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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